

Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) In an Open System Interconnection (OSI) model having at least ~~an application layer and~~ a transport layer represented by a user datagram protocol (UDP), a first broadband interface unit (BIntU) transceiver associated with a broadband network system wherein the first broadband network system further includes a data distribution center, wherein the data distribution center is coupled over a network to a network access point, a personal computer with a computer processor, wherein the personal computer is separate from the first BIntU transceiver, and the first BIntU transceiver is positioned between the network access point and the personal computer, the first BIntU transceiver comprising:

a transmitter portion, responsive to function calls from the personal computer, that is configured to generate UDP packets in the first BIntU transceiver and transmit the UDP packets over the network solely at or below the transport layer, wherein said transmitter portion encodes, with an encoder, audio or video information, within the first BIntU transceiver in order to generate UDP frame information, temporarily stores the UDP frame information solely at or below the transport layer as a UDP packet within a protocol stack, transmits the UDP packet directly from the protocol stack to the network access point at, or below, the transport layer, and transmits the UDP packet from the network access point to the data distribution center at, or below, the transport layer; and wherein the UDP information output by the encoder travels from the encoder to the stack

and from the stack to the network access point solely at, or below, the transport layer and without being processed by the computer processor in the personal computer; transmit UDP packets that include frame header information generated at the application layer to the data distribution center, wherein the first BIntU transceiver is configured to interface with the data distribution center or a second BIntU transceiver to indicate when UDP packets ~~including frame header information generated at the application layer and~~ transmitted from the first BIntU transceiver to the data distribution center or the second BIntU transceiver are being received.

2. (Currently amended) The BIntU transceiver of claim 1, wherein the data distribution center generates a return packet in response to the UDP packets ~~that include frame header information generated at the application layer,~~ wherein the return packet is transmitted from the second BIntU transceiver via the data distribution center to the first BIntU transceiver.

3. (Original) The BIntU transceiver of claim 1, further comprising software associated with the first BIntU transceiver that permits the first BIntU transceiver to interface with the second BIntU transceiver or the data distribution center.

4. (Currently amended) The BIntU transceiver of claim 1, further comprising:

a receiver portion that is configured to receive a return packet from the data distribution center of the second BIntU transceiver to indicate that the data distribution center or the second BIntU transceiver received at least one of the UDP packets ~~including~~

~~frame header information generated at the application layer~~ from the first BIntU transceiver.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) The BIntU transceiver of claim 1, wherein at least one of the UDP packets including frame header information generated at the application layer further includes an applet.

7. (Currently amended) The BIntU transceiver of claim 1, wherein the first BIntU transceiver interfaces with ~~first~~ data distribution center, wherein the first BIntU transceiver receives a return packet from the data distribution center in response to at least one of the UDP ~~packets that include frame header information generated at the application layer.~~

8. (Currently amended) The BIntU transceiver of claim 7, wherein at least one of the UDP-packets ~~that include frame header information generated at the application layer~~ further includes an applet, and wherein the return packet is returned in response to the ~~Java~~ applet.

9. (Currently amended) The BIntU transceiver of claim 1, wherein the UDP packets ~~that include frame header information generated at the application layer~~ are received by the

data distribution center or transmitted by the data distribution center using security techniques.

10. (Original) The BIntU transceiver of claim 9, wherein the security techniques utilize biometric technology that may be accessed by the data distribution center.

11. (Original) The BIntU transceiver of claim 9, wherein the security techniques utilize smart card technology that may be accessed by the data distribution center.

12. (Original) The BIntU transceiver of claim 9, wherein the security techniques include a private key located at the BIntU transceiver that may be accessed by the data distribution center.

13. (Currently amended) The BIntU transceiver of claim 9, further comprising a data distribution center that interfaces with the first BIntU transceiver, wherein the data distribution center or the second BIntU transceiver selectively transmits a return packet to the first BIntU transceiver in response to at least one of the UDP packets ~~that include frame header information generated at the application layer~~, and wherein an end user at the second BIntU transceiver can access at least one of the UDP packets ~~that include frame header information generated at the application layer~~ based on the security techniques.

14-41. (Cancelled).